Maintenance of Locos

1443. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that C.A.G. is extremely critical in its report for 2003 regarding 'inferior quality of regular scheduled maintenance of Locos';

(b) whether the accident of Golcoonda Express on 2nd July, 2003 was due to failure of brakes; and

(c) if so, whether the loco was hundred per cent fit before it was put on track?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No, Sir. The C.A.G's. report (No. 9 of 2003 for the year 2001-02) points out unscheduled repair of locos and lesser number of schedules than arising in some of the diesel and electric sheds. However, the availability and ineffectiveness of locos have been better than the target.

(b) No, Sir. The Commissioner of Railway Safety, South Central Circle is conducting the inquiry. He has mentioned in his preliminary report as provisional finding that the cause is "delayed application of brakes". However, the final report is awaited.

(c) Does not arise.

Ahmedabad-Mumbai railway line

1444. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways accept the fact that the existing capacity of Ahmedabad-Mumbai railway line has been over utilised;

(b) whether Railways consider to augment the capacity of this line by providing additional track; and

(c) if so, by when this project will be taken up?